

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAIRO 05911 071623Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 EB-08 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
COME-00 TRSE-00 SP-02 PRS-01 /032 W
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, PFOR
SUBJECT: ARAB BOYCOTT: ARAB LEAGUE DELIBERATIONS

REF: (A) CAIRO 5374, (B) CAIRO 5299, (C) STATE 72908

1. IN RESPONSE TO RESPONSE TO REQUEST IN REF C, EMBASSY PROVIDES
BELOW TEXTS OF TWO ARTICLES APPEARING IN PRESS ON AL
BOYCOTT DELIBERATIONS.

2. REF B BASED ON ARTICLE APPEARING AL AHAM MARCH 29,
1977. INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF ARTICLE AS FOLLOWS:
THE POLITICAL COMMITTEE OF THE ARAB LEAGUE DECIDED ON
MARCH 28, UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE ECONOMIC
COMMITTEE, TO CONTINUE APPLYING RULES OF THE ARAB
BOYCOTT TO UNITED STATES COMPANIES WHICH DO NOT PRESENT
DOCUMENTS PROVING THAT THEY DO NOT HAVE DEALINGS WITH
ISRAEL. THE COMMITTEE CONFIRMED THAT THE ARAB STATES
HOLD TO THE PRINCIPLE OF THE ARAB BOYCOTT. THE COMMITTEE
ALSO DECIDED AT A MEETING ATTENDED BY ARAB LEAGUE SEC GEN
MAHMOUD RIAD, AND CHAIRED BY ALGERIAN MINISTER OF EDUCATION
ABDAL KARIM BEN MAHMOUD, NOT TO ISSUE AGENCY LICENSES
TO US FIRMS WHICH ARE, AT THE SAME TIME, ACTING AS
AGENTS FOR ISRAELI COMPANIES. END TRANSLATION.

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3. REF A BASED ON ARTICLE APPEARING IN AL AKHBAR MARCH 30,
1977. INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF TEXT AS FOLLOWS:
DURING YESTERDAY'S MEETING HELD BY THE ARAB LEAGUE COUNCIL,
AMBASSADOR TAHER RADWAN, CHIEF OF THE SAUDI DELEGATION,
INVITED HEADS OF DELEGATIONS TO A CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS
RULES GOVERNING THE ARAB BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL.
RADWAN, WHO ADDRESSED THE CONFEREES, CALLED FOR THE

RECONSIDERATION OF THE BOYCOTT REGULATIONS SO THAT THEY MAY SERVICE THE AIMS OF THE ARAB NATION. HE ADDED THAT THE PROVISIONS OF THE ARAB BOYCOTT WERE FORMULATED 30 YEARS AGO, AND THEY WERE THE ONLY WEAPON IN THE HANDS OF THE ARABS, BUT TODAY THERE ARE NUMEROUS WEAPONS AND THE BOYCOTT WEAPON MUST BE USED CLEVERLY. RADWAN CALLED FOR RECONSIDERING BLACKLISTS CARRYING NAMES OF COMPANIES WHICH ARABS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO DEAL WITH, SAYING THAT THE ARAB COUNTRIES MIGHT BE DEPRIVED OF THE BEST INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS BECAUSE THESE COMPANIES HAVE DEALINGS WITH ISRAEL. RADWAN ADDED: WE MUST NOT FORGET THE PRESSURE WHICH WORLD ZIONISM BRINGS TO BEAR ON COMPANIES WHICH LIMIT THEIR DEALINGS TO THE ARABS ONLY. FURTHERMORE, THE ARABS CANNOT BOYCOTT THE AMERICAN BOEING COMPANY. WE ALSO CANNOT STOP OUR DEALINGS WITH WORLD AIR AND MARITIME COMPANIES BECAUSE IN THAT CASE THE OTHER COUNTRIES WILL ADOPT THE SAME MEASURES IN THEIR DEALINGS WITH THE ARABS. HERE ARAB LEAGUE SECRETARY MAHMOUD RIYAD SAID: BY SO DOING THE ARABS WILL ISOLATE THEMSELVES FROM THE WORLD. AL AKHBAR'S REPORTER LEARNED THAT THE CONSENSUS DURING THIS DEBATE WAS ON BOYCOTTING COMPANIES IF THERE ARE SUBSTITUTE COMPANIES PROVIDING SIMILAR PRODUCTS. FOR INSTANCE WHEN THE ARABS BOYCOTT THE COCA COLA COMPANY, THEY WILL FIND OTHER SUBSTITUTE COMPANIES. THE ARAB LEAGUE POLITICAL COMMITTEE MET IN THE EVENING UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF ABDUL KARIM BEN MAHMOUD, CHAIRMAN OF THE ALGERIAN DELEGATION TO CONTINUE THE DISCUSSION OF THE BOYCOTT QUESTION. END TRANSLATION.

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4. NO COMMUNIQUE HAS BEEN ISSUED ON THIS SUBJECT, NOR DO WE EXPECT ONE, SINCE DELIBERATIONS WERE APPARENTLY RATHER CLOSELY HELD.
MATTHEWS

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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